



# The Town Crier

A Newsletter from the Town of Warrenton



## New System Spreads Emergency Information Fast

Lately the news has been filled with tragic stories of natural disasters – record river flooding in the Midwest, tornadoes in the south (and even a few here in Fauquier County).

In this day of modern technology, now there's a new way to stay informed about emergencies in our own community. Fauquier County has upgraded its emergency notification system to a new system called "CodeRed" and "CodeRed Weather Warning." Both warning systems are products of Emergency Communications Network, Inc., a company that helps municipalities manage emergency communications.

These new services allow you to choose to receive e-mail, texts or phone messages to alert you to an emergency. It's fast and efficient, and often quicker than traditional notifications systems like the broadcasting industry's Emergency Alert System (EAS).

CodeRed enables local emergency managers to provide

mass notification quickly for local emergencies. Notifications may include evacuations, missing person alerts, hazardous materials incidents, flooding, and other emergency incidents where rapid and accurate notification is essential for life safety.

CodeRed Weather Warning uses the National Weather Service's polygon methodology to notify only citizens in the path of projected weather (severe thunderstorms, tornadoes and flash floods), which increases relevance and reduces false alarms. This system can be even more versatile than the NOAA Weather Radio system because it allows you to receive the weather warnings wherever you are by cell phone.

You can sign up for these new warning systems by going to the

Town's website ([www.warrentonva.gov](http://www.warrentonva.gov)), clicking on the Code Red logo on the home page, and following the instructions noted. Weather Warnings are delivered to a home, business or cell phone number. ■



## Caution! Mowing Operations Going On Throughout Town

It takes a lot of work to keep the Town of Warrenton looking its best. And during this time of year, part of that work is mowing grass. This means Town mowing crews will be out along roadsides mowing and weed-eating. When driving, please be alert for Town employees on riding mowers or walking with weed-eaters, and be extra careful. These guys often put their safety on the line to mow or trim medians and road shoulders so that things will look sharp in Town. Please have consideration for them and appreciation for the tough job they do. You can do that by slowing down, and passing them carefully.

You can spot them easily. Town mowers have flashing yellow lights, and weed-eating crews wear yellow reflective vests. ■



## Green Grass Program Provides Scientific Help to Lawn Owners

If you're a dedicated lawn owner, or would like to be, there's a new program that helps homeowners bring some science to the sometimes difficult job of managing their lawns for maximum health and beauty.

The Virginia Cooperative Extension Office in Fauquier County, and the John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District, have kicked off the "Green Grass" program to develop nutrient management plans for homeowners. The purpose of the program is to help homeowners know when and how much fertilizer and other treatments (such as lime) to apply to their lawns. The benefits will be a healthier turf, monetary savings, and the knowledge that you're applying exactly what your grass needs. The community as a whole also will benefit. These recommendations, when followed, will help to keep the Town's limited water supply clean and nutrient free.

The Green Grass program targets neighborhoods in Fauquier County where the John Marshall Soil and Water Conservation District encourages the use of agricultural Best Management Practices (BMP). These BMP plans have traditionally applied only to farmers to help them manage animal waste and nutrient and sediment runoff from fields. Green Grass will promote similar goals for homeowners. It will help turf grass growers manage the nutrients on their lawn and minimize the harmful runoff that ends up in our waterways.

While farmers have made progress in lowering the amount of nutrients that enter waterways, residential and urban nutrient loads continue to increase. Nutrient runoff causes stress to underwater plant and animal life, and may cause algae blooms that can be deadly to fish. Pet waste contributes to the amount of bacteria in streams, lowering the quality of the water and increasing the likelihood of disease when people come in contact with the water.



### Here's how the Green Grass program works:

- A lawn owner fills out a one-page survey about their lawn and how they currently care for it. They mail that form to the Fauquier Extension Office with a check for \$20 (made out to the Treasurer of Virginia Tech). This fee covers the cost of a soil test and the equipment used to measure the area of the lawn.
- A Green Grass volunteer will then pay a visit and inspect your lawn. These specially trained volunteers measure the area of the turf, take a soil sample, identify the type of grass, and assess the general conditions of the turf. The volunteer will also leave a packet of information with the Green Grass client.
- After the soil test results come back from Virginia Tech, a customized nutrient management plan will be given to the homeowner.

Applications will be taken until September 15, or until the maximum number of homeowners who can be served is reached. To receive the one-page survey and application to participate in the Green Grass program, please contact the Fauquier Extension Office at (540) 341-7950, Ext. 219, or at [tohlwile@vt.edu](mailto:tohlwile@vt.edu). Interested homeowners also can come by the Extension Office at 24 Pelham Street. ■

## Town Water Lines To Be Flushed

As part of the Town's water line maintenance program, the Utilities Department will be flushing water lines throughout the Town most of the month of October. Flushing will take place between 7:00 PM and 1:00 AM, to minimize any inconvenience to residents and businesses.

If you notice any discoloration to your water during this time, it is most likely harmless, and can be easily cleared from your water lines by running the cold water for several minutes. If you have continued problems with water discoloration, please call Public Works at (540) 347-1858, and someone will check into the problem for you.

By the way, the scheduled flushing dates are subject to change due to any water restrictions that may be in effect at that time. ■

## Explore the Town's Parks This Summer!

Are you looking for a fun, family activity? Do you love the outdoors? Do you love to explore? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you have to try "geocaching."

In an effort to get its citizens more involved in the outdoors and its park systems, the Town of Warrenton Parks and Recreation Department has started a geocaching movement. Several "caches" are currently hidden in the Town of Warrenton Parks, invisible to the naked eye. Get your family together and see if you can find them. The Town of Warrenton parks offer beautiful scenery and a fun family atmosphere. Go geocaching, spend a day at the park and enjoy the outdoors in the Town of Warrenton!



### What is Geocaching?

Geocaching (pronounced geo-cashing) is a worldwide game of hiding and seeking treasure. A geocacher can place a cache somewhere, pinpoint its location using GPS technology, and then share the cache's existence and location online. Anyone with a GPS device can then try to locate the cache.

### How Do I Get Started?

At its simplest level, geocaching requires these steps:

1. Register for a free basic membership at [www.geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com).
2. Visit the Hide & Seek a Cache page.
3. Enter your postal code and click search.
4. Choose any cache from the list and click on its name.
5. Enter the coordinates of the cache into your GPS device.
6. Use your GPS device to assist you in finding the hidden cache.
7. Find the cache, sign the logbook and return the cache to its original location.
8. Share your geocaching stories and photos online.

### How Do I Find Town of Warrenton Parks Caches?

Pick up a Town of Warrenton Parks & Rec Geocaching brochure, available at the front desk at the WARF. The brochure lists the coordinates and information for each cache in the Town of Warrenton's Parks. ■

## WOW Fauquier Already Planning Christmas Parade

This December will mark the 25th year of the Warrenton Christmas Parade. The parade is a local tradition and a fun holiday event. It takes place this year on Saturday, December 3 at 10:00 along Main Street in Warrenton.

To celebrate the parade's silver anniversary, "Women of Wonder (WOW) Fauquier" -- the parade's organizer -- has selected "Silver Memories" as this year's theme. This year the parade will be linked to WOW Fauquier's "Season of Giving" project, which offers financial support to a local non-profit organization during the holiday season.

WOW Fauquier is a non-profit women's organization that unites local women in friendship and community service.

To make Warrenton's 2011 Christmas Parade especially memorable, the WOW parade committee is looking to the community for inspiration. If you have an idea or suggestion, or would like to be involved in organizing the parade, please contact them.

WOW Fauquier depends on the generous sponsorship of local citizens and business to fund the parade and its other projects. Sponsorship is a fun, easy, personal approach to getting involved, and a great way to advertise your business or organization within the community.

To learn more, contact the WOW Fauquier parade committee at [warrentonparade@gmail.com](mailto:warrentonparade@gmail.com), or call Linda at (540) 878-0908. You can also find more information about WOW Fauquier at their website, [www.fauquierwow.com](http://www.fauquierwow.com). ■





## Help Your Trees Thrive This Summer

Summer is a great time to enjoy your trees and those that dot the landscapes of the Town. Here are a few things you can do for your trees in the summer to keep them growing strong.

● **Establish or expand mulch** -- While mulching is traditionally done in the spring, it can be done any time of year. It is great for trees. It maintains soil temperature, helps keep moisture in the soil to reduce watering needs, decomposes and adds organic matter to soil, helps keep weeds and young trees away, and keeps weed whackers and lawnmowers away from tree trunks. Mulch should be 1-2 inches thick and in a ring around the tree. The mulch should begin one inch from the trunk and extend out as far as the furthest branch tip, or as far as you are willing to go.

Common problems with mulch are making it too thick and piling it around the tree trunk. This is sometimes called "volcano mulching," and is actually too much of a good thing; make the mulch no more than two inches deep and have none against the trunk of the tree.

● **Water young trees** -- Trees planted in the last three years should receive water at least once per week throughout the growing season. If sufficient rainfall is received, no watering is necessary. If it hasn't rained in five or six days and none is forecast soon, then water your trees. Using a hose end sprayer or drip line, apply water to the area of the root ball and out as far as the furthest leaves. Spray the water right on top of the mulch and let it soak in. Water during evening or overnight hours if possible. Apply water at the rate of 1 - 3 inches, which equals 5 - 15 gallons per square yard. One way to see how much water is being applied is to set an empty pan or container on the ground and water right over top of it. You can see exactly how much water is being applied by how much collects in the pan.

● **Enjoy your trees** -- Take some time to sit in the shade of your tree and read a book, watch insects crawl around, have a picnic, or talk to your neighbors. Learn how to identify your trees and the others around Town. Some excellent resources are available to help you identify them:



"Common Native Trees of Virginia"  
From the Virginia Department of Forestry  
[www.dof.virginia.gov](http://www.dof.virginia.gov)

"Tree Finder"  
by May Theilgaard Watts  
© Nature Study Guild, 1998



Virginia Tech online Tree ID key  
<http://Dendro.cnre.vt.edu/Dendrology/IdIt.htm>.

*Submitted by the Warrenton Tree Board. ■*

## Holiday Refuse Schedule

### Independence Day – July 4

**Monday, 7/4/11** – Holiday; no refuse collection

**Tuesday, 7/5/11** – Double refuse collection  
(Both Monday's and Tuesday's route)

**Wednesday, 7/6/11** – Regular recycling collection  
(cardboard, newspapers and blue bags)

**Thursday, 7/7/11** – Regular refuse collection

**Friday, 7/8/11** – Regular refuse collection

### Labor Day – September 5

**Monday, 9/5/11** – Holiday; no refuse collection

**Tuesday, 9/6/11** – Double refuse collection  
(Both Monday's and Tuesday's route)

**Wednesday, 9/7/11** – Regular recycling collection  
(cardboard, newspapers and blue bags)

**Thursday, 9/8/11** – Regular refuse collection

**Friday, 9/9/11** – Regular refuse collection

### Columbus Day – October 10

**Monday, 10/10/11** – Holiday; no refuse collection

**Tuesday, 10/11/11** – Double refuse collection  
(Both Monday's and Tuesday's route)

**Wednesday, 10/12/11** – Regular recycling collection  
(cardboard, newspapers and blue bags)

**Thursday, 10/13/11** – Regular refuse collection

**Friday, 10/14/11** – Regular refuse collection

*NOTE: During all holidays there will be a refuse truck available at the Public Works Facility, located at 360 Falmouth Street. ■*



## Fall Clean-Up Right Around the Corner

If you missed Spring Clean-Up week, or didn't get rid of everything you needed to, Fall Clean-Up week will be here before you know it. It is scheduled for October 17 - 21.

Clean-Up week... what's that, you ask? Well, it's a twice-a-year tradition in the Town of Warrenton -- fall and spring. Town trucks make extra refuse pick-ups to collect large items, refuse and debris crews can't typically pick up on regular refuse collection days. It's one of the benefits you get as a Town resident, and many citizens look forward to these special clean-up weeks and make their plans to get rid of things that are taking up space or littering their yards.

Maybe you've wanted to unload some things, and just don't have time for a yard sale. Here's your chance to get Grandma's walker or that rusty wheelbarrow with the flat tire out of your garage. Crews also will pick up yard debris, like branches and sticks. But no rocks or stumps, please.

So mark your calendar for the Fall Clean-Up week, and start piling up things you'd like to get rid of. Crews will be all over Warrenton that week, so get your things out to the curbside the first day of the week, and they'll pick them up when they get to your neighborhood. Remember, these special collections are only for Town residents, not for businesses.

You can get more info, like specific dates for your neighborhood, or a comprehensive list of acceptable items, by calling the Town's Public Works office at (540) 347-1858. ■

## Be a Courteous Neighbor

The Town's sidewalks are used by a variety of pedestrians. There's the daily jogger, the dog walker, the mother and child taking a stroll, wheelchair travelers, and even the environmentalist walking to work or the store to save fuel. No matter the reason, there is a lot of pedestrian traffic on Town sidewalks, and for everyone's safety, this traffic must flow unencumbered.

Please be careful where you place your refuse for pick-up. Sometimes it is right smack in the way of people using the sidewalks. There may be a safer place to place your trash, perhaps at your driveway entrance or on the grass near the sidewalk. The Town doesn't want you to have to have to haul it too far out of your way, but just be aware that it can be a safety hazard if it impedes sidewalk traffic.

Thanks for all you do to help us keep our Town clean and safe. ■



## Brush Collections

Now, if you'd rather not wait till fall to get rid of some yard waste, you're in luck. The Town is conducting its regular brush collections through the warmer months. These collections are strictly for larger limbs that have been cut by the homeowner. If a contractor did it for you, they are responsible for clearing the debris.

Limbs should be placed curbside -- not blocking traffic or sidewalks, not in ditch lines or blocking culverts. Small limbs, twigs, vines and clippings should be bagged and placed out with your household refuse. When bagging this type of yard debris, please consider the weight of your loaded bags. If one man can't lift it, or he feels the bag will bust, it will be left. The Town will not pick up dirt, rocks, sod or stumps at any time.

If you can mulch your grass, or compost your yard waste, please do so. This keeps the Town's costs down at the landfill.

The Public Works Department will be happy to answer any questions about the brush collections. Call (540) 347-1858. ■

## Recycling Notice

If you participate in the Town of Warrenton's Recycling Program, the Town would like to say thanks! Your commitment to the program is greatly appreciated and very much recognized. Not only does it help the Town keep its landfill tonnages down, but also it's the right thing to do for the earth.

The Town's Recycling Program is very effective. But like any program, there is always room for improvement. Here are some tips that will help make it work better:

- The blue bags are only for glass bottles and jars, type 1 and 2 plastic containers, and steel and aluminum cans. Please, no Styrofoam, aerosol cans, plastic grocery bags, paper or cardboard in these bags. Any blue bags that are even slightly contaminated have to be treated as trash, and the contents are not recycled.
- Newspapers should be placed in a paper bag or bundled with string.
- Only corrugated cardboard can be collected for recycling. Fiberboard boxes cannot be collected. Boxes made of fiberboard usually are gray (not brown like corrugated cardboard), and contain things like cake mixes and breakfast cereals. Please flatten your corrugated cardboard boxes, and make sure there is nothing inside them.

If you have questions or are considering recycling and would like more information, please call Public Works at (540) 347-1858. ■

# SUMMER 2011 AT THE WARF!

## Summer 2011 Aquatics

The Summer 2011 aquatics schedule is now available. Get your kids ready for summer vacations and visits to the WARF by enrolling them in group swim lessons. Your children will learn important water safety information and swimming skills. Classes are available for all ages and all ability levels. In addition to lessons for children, Adult Beginner and Adult Intermediate classes are also available.

### How to Register:

1. Pick up the Summer 2011 Aquatics Brochure, Class Descriptions Sheet and Registration Form at the WARF front desk, or download the forms from our website at [www.warrentonva.gov](http://www.warrentonva.gov) (the WARF is listed under Parks & Rec).
2. Choose a class based on the participant's ability level. See the Class Descriptions sheet for information on each class.
3. Find the participant's class in the Summer Aquatics Brochure. You will find the corresponding blocks (dates), days of the week and times of day that class is available.
4. Register! Registration is now open for members and non-members. Payment must be made in full at the time of registration.

## Aqua Zumba is Now at the WARF!

Try Aqua Zumba at the WARF and jump into the Latin-inspired, easy-to-follow, calorie-burning, dance/fitness party that makes working out a splash!

The resistance of the water takes Zumba's fun, Latin dance moves to a new cool level. The moves are slightly slower than on land but the energy level is just as high. Aqua Zumba is the perfect low impact way to heat up the pool party.

Aqua Zumba is free for WARF members. Come try it at the WARF, Mondays at 10:15 AM, Thursdays at 6:30 PM, Fridays at 10:15 AM and Saturdays at 10:30 AM.

## Groups at the WARF This Summer

The WARF will be hosting a variety of day care, church and youth groups this summer. Not only does revenue from these groups help to keep our membership fees low, but they also provide positive, healthy outlets for local youth. We expect group traffic will be the highest on weekdays from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Please expect

the Leisure Pool to be busy during these times. To prevent overcrowding and to ensure safety for all patrons, a wristband policy will be enforced in the Leisure Pool during these times. This policy will be in effect for the duration of the summer (June 13 - August 19).

## Adult Time at the WARF This Summer

There will be an "Adults Only" Water Walking Hour in the Lazy River this summer, weekdays 8:00 - 9:00 AM. Come start your day with a quiet, relaxing walk in the Lazy River!

## 2011 Annual Maintenance Shutdown

The Leisure Pool, Competition Pool, Water Slide and Spa at the WARF will be shut down Monday, August 22 through Sunday, August 28. This closure is necessary due to required maintenance, including extensive plaster and grout cleaning, painting, and re-caulking. We apologize for any inconvenience.

The WARF will reopen with normal hours on Monday, August 29. At that point, the WARF will revert back to Fall/Winter/Spring Hours of Operation.

During this maintenance week, the remaining areas of the facility (Fitness Room and Land Fitness Classes) will be operating on a normal schedule.

## Summer 2011 Hours of Operation

*(Effective June 13 - August 19)*

### Facility Hours

Monday - Friday: 5:00 AM - 8:45 PM  
Saturday: 8:00 AM - 5:45 PM  
Sunday: 12:00 - 5:45 PM

### Leisure Pool Hours

Monday - Friday: 9:00 AM - 8:45 PM  
Saturday & Sunday: 12:00 - 5:45 PM

### Water Slide Hours

Monday - Thursday: 1:00 - 5:45 PM  
Friday: 1:00 - 8:45 PM  
Saturday & Sunday: 12:00 - 5:45 PM

### Spa Hours

Monday - Friday: 9:00 AM - 8:45 PM  
Saturday: 8:00 AM - 5:45 PM  
Sunday: 12:00 - 5:45 PM

*WARF continued from page 6.*

## Junior Lifeguard Program for Young Teens

Looking for a fun summer activity for your older kids? The WARF will be offering a Junior Lifeguard class this July. Junior Lifeguard classes are perfect for those ages 10 - 15 who are interested in learning the ins and outs of what it takes to be a lifeguard, including water safety, hazards in aquatic environments and basic water rescue and first aid skills. Participants will take part in skills classes and drills, work alongside the WARF lifeguard staff, gain valuable future job skills and have lots of fun! No prior experience or skills needed.

The class will run Monday - Friday from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM, July 18 - July 22. Register now to reserve your spot.

## WARF Begins Successful Swim Lesson Program for Children with Disabilities

Started in March 2011, Swim Lessons for Children with Disabilities is a program partially supported by a grant from the Meade Palmer Fund at the Northern Piedmont Community Foundation. This program provides swim lessons, free of charge, to children who have been identified as having disabilities. These children are those who might not normally be able to participate in group lessons. The program provides valuable water safety and swimming skills.

Red Cross certified Water Safety Instructors teach the lessons, and the groups consist of two students. Students are evaluated at the beginning of each session to ensure placement in an appropriate group for their skills and ability. The program is evaluated at the end of the session in order to provide the best service possible.

According to the CDC, in 2007, of all children 1 to 4 years old who died from an unintentional injury, almost 30% died from drowning. Fatal drowning remains the second-leading cause of unintentional injury-related death for children ages 1 to 14 years. In addition, according to the National Autistic Association, drowning is a leading cause of death for a child who has autism.

## Skateboard Camps at the Warrenton Skatepark

Radical dude! An extreme camp for skateboard riders of all levels. Whether you have never been on a skateboard and want to learn, or you are an experienced skateboard rider who wants to improve your skills, this camp is for you. Learn to ride, tack turn, olly, kick flip, grind, stall, drop in and get air at this camp for beginner to intermediate skateboarders. Have fun, be safe and learn fast under the guidance of an American Inline certified skateboard instructor. Participants receive official camp tee-shirt and sticker.

Bring a snack and water. Required equipment: skate board, skateboard helmet, elbow and kneepads. Wrist guards recommended.

The camp is open to boys and girls ages 6 - 13. The camp meets at the Warrenton Skatepark at the Warrenton Sports Complex, 800 Waterloo Road (in front of the WARF).

### Skateboard Camp Dates/Times:

**July 18 - 22, 9 AM to 12:30 PM**  
(minimum 8, maximum, 25) -- \$175

**August 8 - 12, 9 AM to 12:30 PM**  
(minimum 8, maximum 25) -- \$175

Register through American Inline Skating at [www.americaninline.com](http://www.americaninline.com). For general questions Email: [info@americaninline.com](mailto:info@americaninline.com) or call (703) 994-7617. ■



## Home Depot Makes Generous Donation to Parks & Rec

The WARF would like to thank the Home Depot of Warrenton for their generous donation of supplies to build a dozen new picnic tables for the Town of Warrenton Parks and Recreation Department. The picnic tables have been placed outside the WARF so families can have lunch or relax while playing at the Claude Moore Fun-For-All Playground. ■



## Town Office Hours and Telephone Numbers

*Town Office Hours are 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM*

*The area code is 540 unless otherwise noted.*

Finance Department.....	347-1102
Inspections .....	347-2405
Maintenance Shop.....	347-1858
Police Department	
Office of the Chief .....	347-1105
Police Station .....	347-1107
Non-emergency .....	347-1100
<b>Emergency .....</b>	<b>911</b>
Planning and Zoning .....	347-2405
Recreation Department (Aquatic Center) .....	349-2520
Recycling .....	347-1858
Sewage Plant.....	347-1104
Town Hall.....	347-1101
Town Manager .....	347-4505
Utilities.....	347-6574
Water Bills.....	347-2678
Water Plant.....	347-1103
TTD/TTY .....	1-800-828-1120

**After Hours Water and Sewer Emergency**  
**347-1100**

# Happy Summer



from the  
**Town of Warrenton**

WARRENTON, VIRGINIA 20186

POSTAL CUSTOMER

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSS

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### TOWN COUNCIL

is published by the Warrenton Town Council to inform  
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### The Town Crier

**The Town Crier**  
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